

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 07071 020226Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 /088 W
-----097075 020233Z /64
P 020201Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4201
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 7071

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG UNGA RQ AS
SUBJECT: PUERTO RICO IN COMMITTEE OF 24

REF: A) STATE 223357 B) USUN 3401 C) STATE 222918

1. VERY MUCH APPRECIATE INFO REFTELS, WHICH WE HAVE DISCUSSED
WITH DFA.

2. DFA HAS SENT INSTRUCTIONS TO AUSTRALIAN UN MISSION TO WORK
CLOSELY WITH USUN AND HAS GIVEN AUSTDEL VIRTUALLY COMPLETE
FLEXIBILITY TO ADJUST TACTICS IN COORDINATION WITH USUN IN EFFORTS
TO LIMIT DAMAGE OF CUBAN/IRAQI RESOLUTION, AS REQUESTED BY
IO ASST SEC MAYNES.

3. DFA CONCURS IN US ASSESSMENT THAT THE BEST TACTIC AT THIS
STAGE IS PROBABLY TO FLOOD THE DEBATE WITH A SERIES OF AMENDMENTS
IN AN EFFORT TO CAUSE SUFFICIENT CONFUSION TO OPEN THE WAY FOR
THE INDIAN RESOLUTION PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED WITH THE US.

4. AS OF THIS WRITING, DFA HAS NOT YET HEARD FROM THEIR
UN MISSION ABOUT THE RESULTS OF FRIDAY'S SESSIONS IN THE
C-24, BUT BELIEVES THE FLEXIBILITY AND LATTITUDE THEY
HAVE GIVEN THEIR UN MISSION TO WORK WITH USUN WILL BE
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HELPFUL. DFA IS, AT THIS STAGE, RELUCTANT TO GUESS AT
THE LIKELY OUTCOME OF THE DEBATE, AND IS STILL A BIT
STUNNED AT THE LARGE NUMBERS, PUBLIC STANDING, AND
RELATIVE VEHEMENCE OF MANY OF THE PUERTO RICAN SPEAKERS
IN THE DEBATE WHO CALLED FOR SOME FORM OF UN INVOLVEMENT.
NEEDLESS TO SAY, DFA SHARES OUR VIEWS AND DOES NOT NEED
CONVINCING ABOUT THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER IN PUERTO RICO;

DFA'S POINT IS ONLY THAT THE NUMBERS OF DISTINGUISHED
PUERTO RICANS CALLING FOR UN INVOLVEMENT SIMPLY MAKES
IT THAT MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO DEFEAT THE ANTAGONISTS.
ALSTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, COMMITTEES, NEGOTIATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CANBER07071
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780358-0881
Format: TEL
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808109/aaaadngw.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3c178b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 223357, 78 USUN NEW YORK 3401, 78 STATE 222918
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1565931
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PUERTO RICO IN COMMITTEE OF 24
TAGS: PORG, RQ, AS, UNGA, COMMITTEE OF 24
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3c178b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014